



Department of Energy

Official File

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

CORPORATE

September 14, 2005

In reply refer to: KDP-7

Mr. Ross Pies
2563 N.E. 45th Avenue
Portland, OR 97213-1222

RE: FOIA Request #05-053

Dear Mr. Pies:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request #05-053. In your request dated Aug. 11, 2005, you requested:

- The results of the IT paper employee survey with the results compiled in July/August 2005 conducted by Jackie Shelpman.

BPA has determined that the survey results should be withheld in whole pursuant to 5 USC § 552(b)(5) (Exemption 5) of the FOIA, as explained below.

Reasons for non-disclosure under Exemption 5

Under Exemption 5, an agency may withhold documents that are deliberative and predecisional. Your request asks for documents that are protected by this Exemption.

The IT survey was purely internal and has not been disclosed outside the executive branch of the government. The survey was prepared by BPA staff for the purpose of providing information to BPA management on issues dealing with IT infrastructure and a better workplace environment. The survey results contain subjective recommendations, comments and assumptions made by BPA staff. This survey reflects BPA employee comments on this subject, has no purely factual material that can be released, and does not contain material reflecting a final decision made by BPA. Disclosure of this information would expose BPA's decision-making process in a way that discourages candid discussion within the agency. In fact, in order to encourage candid comments from employees in this particular case, staff was told in an e-mail from Mr. Brian Furumasu that all responses to the survey were anonymous and only the themes of the comments would be made available to staff.

If you are dissatisfied with this determination, you may make an appeal within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter to: Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585. Both the envelope and the letter must be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Christina J. Brannon
Freedom of Information Officer